

Processes and Products: Two Examples

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Outline

- Middle Atlantic Bight Climatology and comparison with MODAS fields
- A regional difference in wind-forced frontal response
- A South China Sea data assimilation conundrum



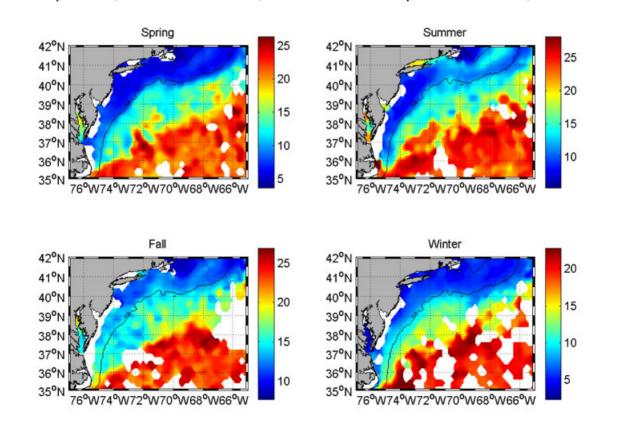
Updated Climatologyof MAB

- Now fully three-dimensional with Hamming window for weighting
- Switch from bi-monthly to seasonal temporal averages
- Can now look more closely at regional differences within MAB



Mean Temperature Fields- 40-55 m depth

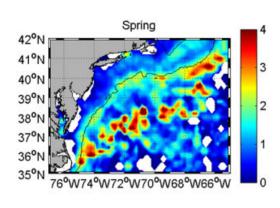
Mean temperature; search radius 35km, from 40m to 55m depth - MAB: NOAA, HB2 & SEEP

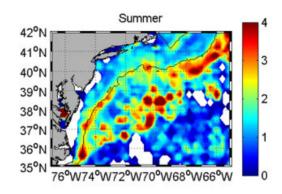


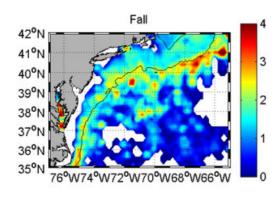


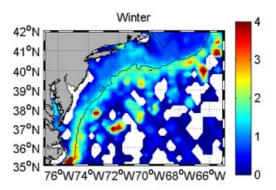
Temperature Std. Dev. Fields- 40-55 m depth

Std temperature; search radius 35km, from 40m to 55m depth - MAB: NOAA, HB2 & SEEP



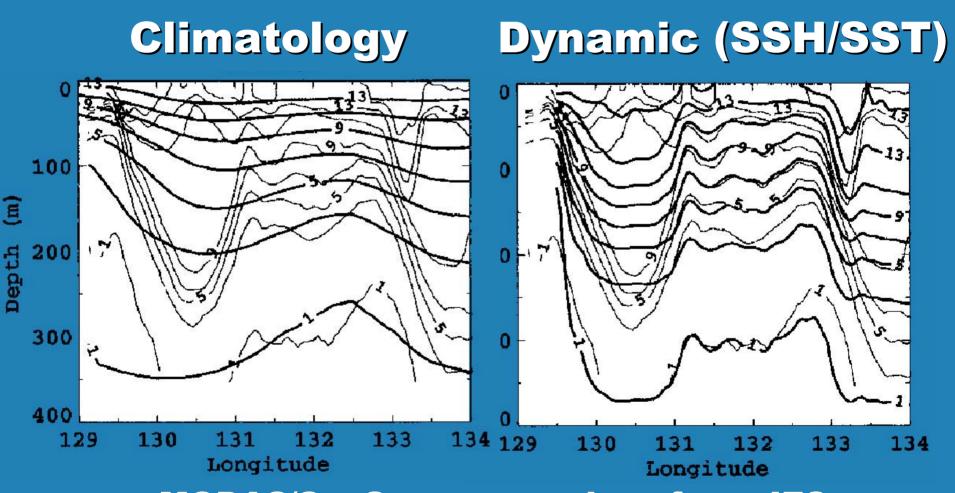








MODAS modes

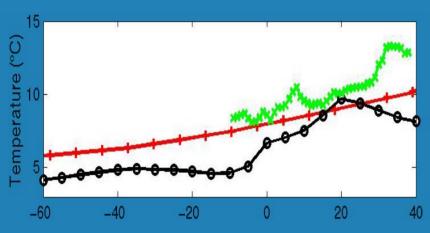


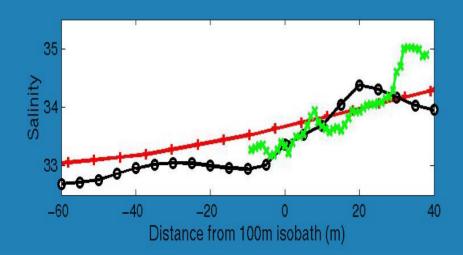
MODAS/SeaSoar comparison from JES (from Fox et al., JOAT, 2001)



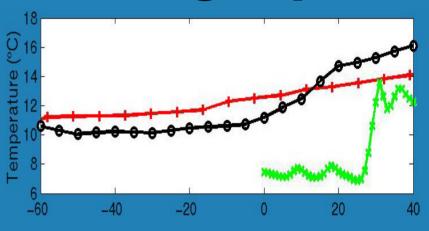
MODAS | Model | PRIMER (MAB cross-frontal T,S @ 40m)

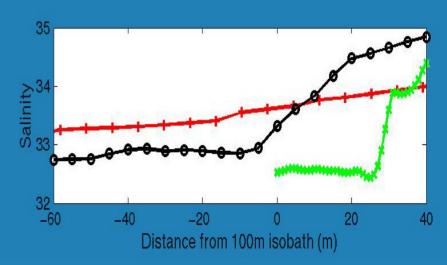
Feb/Mar





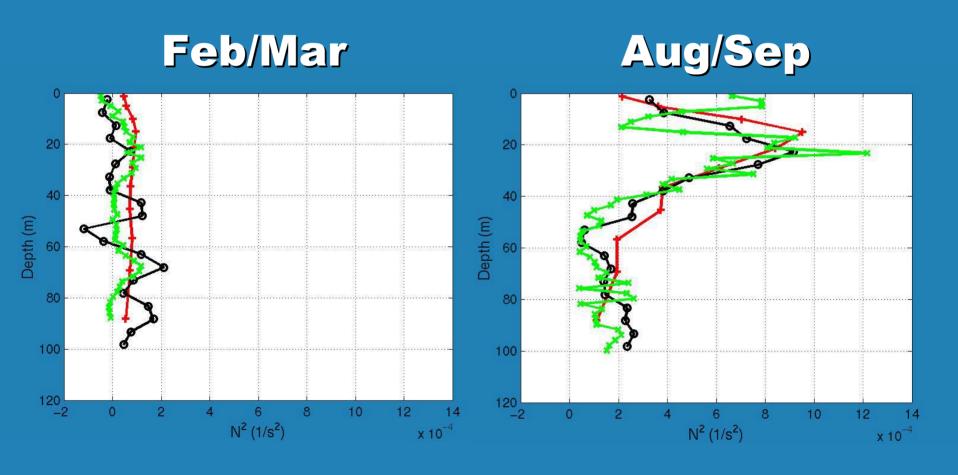
Aug/Sep





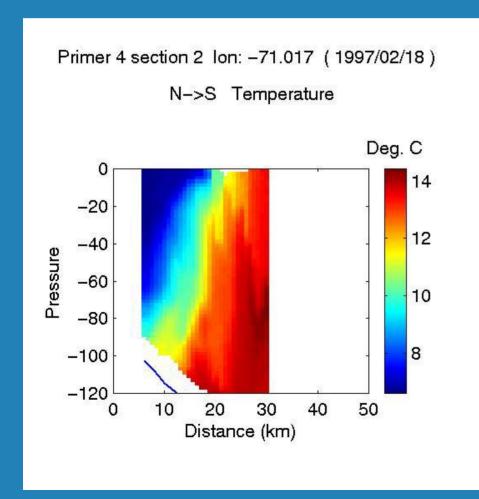


MODAS | Model | PRIMER (stratification @ 100m isobath)





Wind Response-Southern MAB vs New England

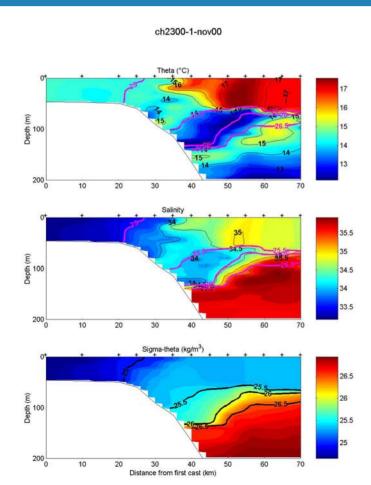


Onshore Ekman transport

New England-Wind steepens front



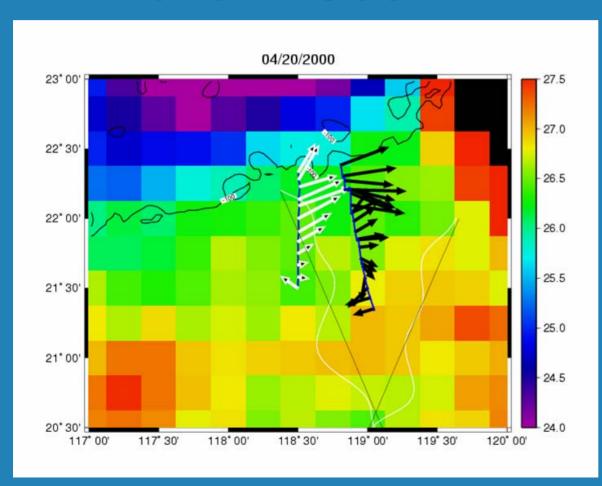
Wind Response-Southern MAB vs New England



Southern MAB-Warm water blows over front Temperature minimum at shelfbreak



South China Sea- ADCP vs. altimeter



ADCP- 93 cm/s
East

Altimeter-35 cm/s East



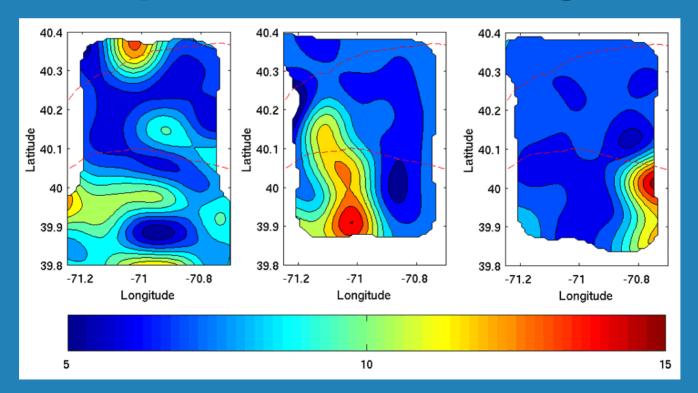
Conclusions

- Regional "hot spots" can be identified and correlated with oceanographic features
- Frontal wind response is dependent on accurately knowing slope temperature field
- Data assimilation of altimeter data may substantially reduce kinetic energy of model fields



Temperature Correlation Scales

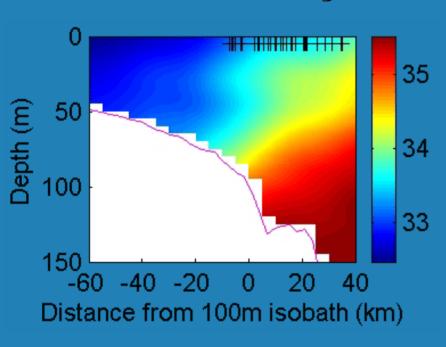
Shelfbreak PRIMER- Spatial Correlation Scales- 8 km, Temporal Scales- 1 Day





Tursiops positions from D Palka 1998 July-August sighting survey

Cross-section mean salinity



Planview mean salinity 40-55m

